GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3983
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
REIMBURSEMENT OF SOCIAL COST OF TEA PLANTERS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea planters of the Southern State have requested the Government to reimburse the social costs which the planters have traditionally been incurring on housing and free rations, medical aid etc. to workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to(c) : Yes, Sir. The tea associations have requested the Government that the social welfare obligations like supply of concessional food grain, medical facilities, maternity benefits, housing, fuel and education etc., which are presently undertaken by the tea industry, may be brought under the cover of various welfare schemes of the Ministries of Health, Education, Rural Development and Human Resources Development (HRD) etc. Such a request requires inter-departmental consultation by the Governmentbefore any decision could be arrived at.